



TECHNICAL NOTE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

API CHANGES OIL CLASSIFICATION

Beginning this fall, a new system of identification for motor oils will come into use, according to the American Petroleum Institute.

Adopted by API's lubrication committee after many months of negotiation, the new system is expected to be in wide-spread use for all 1971 model cars.

API says the new system is designed to promote improved communications between engine oil user, supplier and manufacturer.

In broad terms, API has substituted the use of the letter "S" for passenger car and light truck oils and "C" for heavier, commercial vehicle lubricants. The "S" designation replaces the old "M", and the "C" replaces "D".

API says its new engine service classification system is open-ended, meaning that new categories can be added as required without changing or deleting existing categories. The new and old classifications are:

<u>NEW</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>
SA	ML	Utility gasoline and diesel engine service. Engines operated under mild conditions.
SB	MM	Minimum duty gasoline engine service.
SC	MS-1964	Gasoline engines 1964 through 1967 models; cars and trucks operating under engine makers' warranties.
SD	MS-1968	For 1968 gasoline engine warranty service; cars and trucks beginning with 1968 models and operating under engine manufacturers' warranties.
CA	DG	Light duty diesel engine service.
CB	DM. Supp-1	Moderate duty diesel engine service.

<u>NEW</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>
CC	DM, MIL-L2104B	Moderate duty diesel and gasoline engine service typical of lightly supercharged diesel engines operated in moderate to severe duty.
CD	DS, Series 3	Severe duty diesel engine service; typical of supercharged diesels in high-speed, high-output duty.

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